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May 6, 2002

A combined contribution with

-Cooperative Extension Service

-USDA Farm Service Agency

-The Oklahoma Mesonet

Winter Wheat Entering Soft Dough Stage

May 5 - Severe weather arrived in the State late Sunday evening with heavy thunderstorms and tornadic activity. This interrupted an otherwise mild and dry week. The weather was good for getting field work done, but most areas could still use the rain. Statewide, soil moisture supplies began drying up last week with topsoil moisture being rated as 66 percent adequate or surplus compared with 72 percent the previous week. Subsoil moisture supplies also declined from last week. Statewide, there were 5.6 days suitable for fieldwork.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE BY PERCENT

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
This Week	14	20	62	4
Last Week	15	13	62	10
Last Year	2	33	57	8

SUBSOIL MOISTURE BY PERCENT

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
This Week	27	24	47	2
Last Week	23	26	46	5
Last Year	1	16	81	2

SMALL GRAINS- Wheat was rated in mostly fair to good condition Statewide. The Panhandle and West Central districts continued to rate a large portion of their acreage in poor to very poor condition, with diminishing prospects for harvest. Wheat heading advanced significantly to 90 percent, well ahead of last years 70 percent, and the five year average of 72 percent. Wheat entering the soft dough stage of development was 12 percent, about the same as last year and slightly ahead of the 5-year average pace of 9 percent. Crop insect pressure increased last week with 22 percent reporting none, 47 percent light, 28 percent moderate, and 3 percent heavy last week compared with 27 percent none, 46 percent light, 25 percent moderate, and 2 percent heavy the previous week.

SMALL GRAIN CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week Ending May 5, 2002

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Wheat					
This Week	22	14	29	31	4
Last Week	21	16	29	30	4
Last Year	13	23	37	24	3
Rye					
This Week	13	15	25	42	5
Oats					
This Week	9	18	37	33	3

primarily in the corn crop, where an additional 14 percent had emerged. Sorghum, soybeans, peanuts and cotton progress only advanced modestly, with cotton running ahead of last years pace and the five year average.

HAY: Cutting was gaining momentum with the first cutting of alfalfa reaching 25 percent complete. The dry conditions that curtailed the growth was keeping both alfalfa and other hay cutting behind last years and the five year average pace. Despite the slower growth, both other hay and alfalfa were rated in mostly fair to good condition. Jackson county reported the hay being cut was shorter than last year due to the drought conditions over the past year.

Minor Commodities: Watermelons were 48 percent planted statewide, nearly the same as the 5-year average of 50 percent, but well ahead of last years 31 percent planted. Planting ranged from not yet started in two districts to 86 percent complete in the South Central district.

PASTURE: Statewide, range and pasture conditions continued to be rated in mostly fair or good condition. The Panhandle and West Central district showed some improvement with less being rated in poor to very poor condition. The drought over the past year has caused many pastures to come back weedy. Some producers were busy spraying for weeds and fertilizing pastures.

LIVESTOCK: Livestock were rated in mostly fair to good condition. Livestock insect activity was rated mostly light to moderate with ticks and flies the most prominent problem reported. Cattle auctions reported a sizable increase in marketings for the week. The price for feeder steers less than 800 pounds decreased from last week and averaged \$80.30 per cwt. The price for feeder heifers less than 800 pounds increased from last week and averaged \$73.30 per cwt.

HAY CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week Ending May 5, 2002

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Alfalfa	1	5	36	49	9
Other Hay	2	10	47	35	6

LIVESTOCK CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week Ending May 5, 2002

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Livestock	3	12	32	46	7
Pasture & Range	9	17	30	35	9

ROW CROPS: Corn planting picked up last week with 87 percent completed, ahead of last years 84 percent, and the five year average of 76 percent. Row crop emergence progressed

Oklahoma Crop-Weather Summary
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TIME DATED MATERIAL

OKLAHOMA CROP PROGRESS									
Week Ending May 5, 2002									
Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr. Avg	Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr. Avg
Percent Development					Percent Development				
Wheat -					Peanuts -				
Headed	90	57	70	72	Seedbed Prepared	84	77	92	78
Soft Dough	12	n/a	13	9	Planted	12	4	23	15
Oats -					Cotton -				
Jointing	81	66	77	85	Seedbed Prepared	90	84	90	83
Headed	29	22	40	54	Planted	19	4	12	7
Corn -					Alfalfa -				
Seedbed Prepared	90	87	94	98	1 st Cutting	25	6	58	38
Planted	87	70	84	76	Other Hay -				
Emerged	45	31	43	33	1 st Cutting	7	2	21	14
Sorghum -					Watermelons -				
Seedbed Prepared	55	48	61	54	Planted	48	n/a	31	50
Planted	13	7	20	9					
Soybeans -									
Seedbed Prepared	64	55	75	73					
Planted	24	15	36	26					

WEATHER FOR WEEK ENDING MAY 5, 2002 - Temperatures ranged from 36 degrees at Cherokee, Slapout and Camargo on Friday, May 3rd to 101 degrees at Altus on Wednesday, May 1st. Precipitation averaged 0.03 in. Southwest and South Central districts to 0.34 in. Northeast district. Individual Mesonet Stations ranged from 0.00 in. at many Stations to 1.19 in. at Arnett. Soil temperatures averaged 65 degrees at Wynona on Sunday, May 5th to 81 degrees at Chickasha on Wednesday, May 1st.

MESONET TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA							
Week Ending May 5, 2002							
Districts	Temperature			Precipitation			
	High	Low	Average	This Week	March 1 to May 5, 2002		
					Total	Departure from Normal	Percent of Normal
Degrees			Inches				
Panhandle	81	46	63.7	0.15	0.80	- 3.22	20
West Central	78	52	64.7	0.07	3.67	- 2.12	63
Southwest	81	54	66.8	0.03	5.66	- 0.08	99
North Central	77	49	62.9	0.17	3.26	- 3.14	51
Central	77	53	64.9	0.15	6.36	- 1.31	83
South Central	80	59	68.6	0.03	10.26	+ 2.04	125
Northeast	74	52	63.6	0.34	6.21	- 2.35	73
East Central	76	57	66.1	0.08	9.78	+ 0.41	104
Southeast	78	59	68.0	0.25	15.16	+ 5.16	152